

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. The Office has rejected claims 1, 10-13, and 30 under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Abdel-Mottaleb *et al.* (US Pat. No. 6,285,995). Claims 2-9 and 14-24 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as unpatentable over Abdel-Mottaleb *et al.* (US Pat. No. 6,285,995) in view of Guck (US Pat. No. 5,864,870). Claims 25-29 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as unpatentable over Abdel-Mottaleb *et al.* (US Pat. No. 6,285,995) in view of the publication "Case Based Reasoning Technology ..." by Lenz *et al.* Claim 31 is rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as unpatentable over Jain *et al.* and Lenz *et al.* (US Pat. No. 5,893,095) in view of Guck (US Pat. No. 5,864,870). Claim 32 is rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as unpatentable over Cariño (US Pat. No. 6,067,542) in view of Abdel-Mottaleb *et al.* (US Pat. No. 6,285,995), Guck (US Pat. No. 5,864,870) and Lenz *et al.* This Office action has been made final and is responsive to Applicant's communication filed on or about September 8, 2004.

Claim Amendments

Applicant requests that the amendments to the claims be entered into this application. The amendments contain no new subject matter. Support for the amendments can be found in the specification, for example at page 2, lines 3-10.

102 Rejection in view of Abdel-Mottaleb (Claims 1, 10-13, and 30)

Abdel-Mottaleb does not show or suggest storing "a plurality of exemplar cases" where "the cases comprise a know problem and solution," as now required by Applicant. These claims are therefore allowable over this reference.

103 Rejections in View of Lenz and Others

Lenz does provide information about case-base reasoning (CBR) but does not show or suggest all the elements of Applicant's claimed inventions. The other references do not mention CBR nor do they contain the elements missing from Lenz. These claims are therefore allowable over this reference.

CONCLUSION

The references cited by the Office, whether taken separately or together, do not show or suggest all of the elements of Applicant's claims. Therefore, all claims are allowable over the art of record. Applicant asks the Office to reconsider this application and allow all claims. Please charge any fees that might be due, excluding the issue fee, to deposit account 14-0225.

Respectfully Submitted,

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